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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: The Microsoft Ruling

Thank goodness -- the judge that ruled against the Microsoft settlement can see the some of the anticompetitive effects that would result.

The original ruling is right: MS should be split up.

When IBM was in trouble in the 1960s and 1970s, they were not treated the same way MS would be treated should they be allowed to distribute PCs to schools. In those days, the law seemed aware enough to realize that capturing dominant market share at the level of the public schools would strengthen a company's competitive stranglehold on the computer industry considerably. It would also enable them to influence the market mindset of future generations in their favor. Why would it be any different, now?

Also, what about Apple? Shouldn't they be allowed to exist and to attempt to compete?

You should take a look at a number of MS's practices. Netscape has suffered. Clearly, MS's next targets are Sun Microsystems (Java), and any commercial Linux offering that might threaten their market share in the future.